PLEASE VOTE NO HB557

WM ALLEGRO
MARCH 14, 2007
257-8055

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
EXHIBIT NO. 8
DATE 3-14-07
BILL NO. HB 557

Photo 13 – Initial pit site from just east of Dun Movin Lane

File: C:\DOCUME~1\ballegro\LOCALS~1\Temp\Aerials 07-21-06 2nd half.doc

date: 7/31/2006

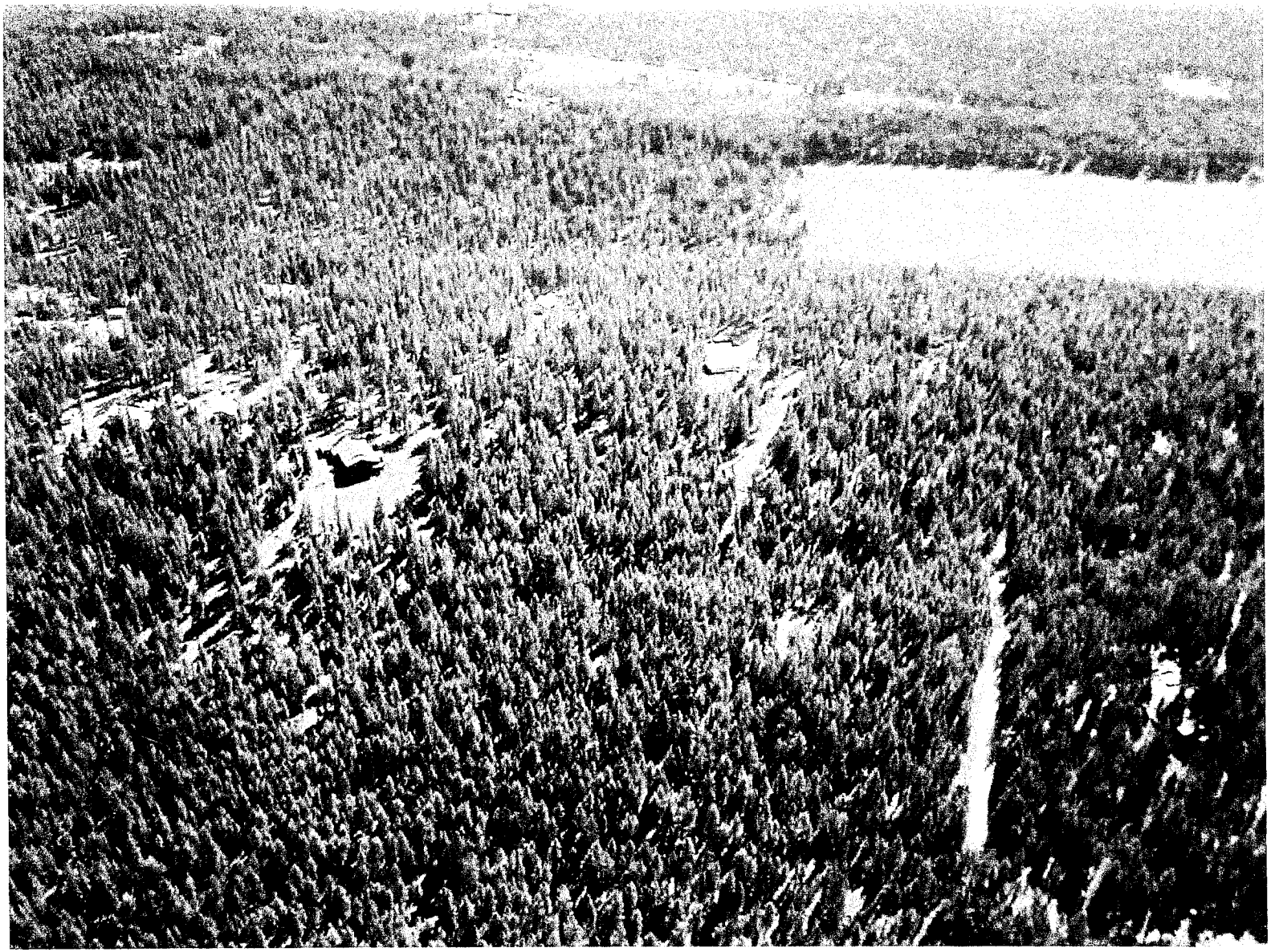

Photo 15 – Homes on mid section of Dun Movin Lane

Photo 16 – Homes at end of Dun Movin Lane


LHC
GRAVEL
PIT


9'
NINE
FEET

DUST FROM ONE VEHICLE @ 35 mph

Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee

RE: **REVISED CRITERIA FOR HB 557**

Dear Committee,

As a concerned citizen of Flathead County Montana, I would ask that you seriously consider the cumulative impacts and associated health risks that pertain to this revision.

Though I am presenting facts (attached) about particulate matter and its risks, I feel all cumulative impacts must be studied and weighed.

The Flathead Valley already has serious Nitrate pollution problems and is designated as a Nonattainment Area for Particulate Matter. How much more pollution will be allowed without performing studies or allowing for county planning, and at what price?

I would like to state my opposition to Revised Criteria for HB 557.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ginny A. Coyle

Ginny A. Coyle

P.O. Box 7997
Kalispell, MT 59904

http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/greenbk/pncs.html#MONTANA
Last updated on Friday, January 5th, 2007.

Green Book

Particulate Matter (PM-10) Nonattainment State/Area/County Report

As of December 05, 2006

ALASKA(Region X)

Eagle River, AK (Moderate)
- Anchorage Municipality (P)
- Community of Eagle River

Juneau, AK (Moderate)
- Juneau City and Borough (P)
- City of Juneau: Mendenhall Valley area

ARIZONA(Region IX)

Ajo (Pima County), AZ (Moderate)
- Pima Co (P)

Hayden/Miami, AZ (Moderate)
- Gila Co (P)
- Pinal Co (P)

Nogales, AZ (Moderate)
- Santa Cruz Co (P)

Paul Spur/Douglas (Cochise County), AZ (Moderate)
- Cochise Co (P)

Phoenix, AZ (Serious)
- Maricopa Co (P)
- Pinal Co (P)

Rillito, AZ (Moderate)
- Pima Co (P)

Yuma, AZ (Moderate)
- Yuma Co (P)

CALIFORNIA(Region IX)

Coachella Valley, CA (Serious)
- Riverside Co (P)
- Coachella Valley planning area

Coso Junction, CA (Moderate)
- Inyo Co (P)
- Searles Valley planning area Hydrologic Unit #18090205

Imperial Valley, CA (Serious)
- Imperial Co (P)
- Imperial Valley planning area

Los Angeles South Coast Air Basin, CA (Serious)
- Los Angeles Co (P)
- South Coast Air Basin
- Orange Co
- Riverside Co (P)
- South Coast Air Basin

San Bernardino Co (P)
South Coast Air Basin
Mammoth Lake, CA (Moderate)
Mono Co (P)
Mono Basin, CA (Moderate)
Mono Co (P)
Hydrologic Unit 1809010
Owens Valley, CA (Serious)
Inyo Co (P)
Owens Valley planning area Hydrologic Unit #18090103
Sacramento Co, CA (Moderate)
Sacramento Co
San Bernardino Co, CA (Moderate)
San Bernardino Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley, CA (Serious)
Fresno Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Kern Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Kings Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Madera Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
San Joaquin Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Stanislaus Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Tulare Co (P)
San Joaquin Valley planning area
Trona, CA (Moderate)
San Bernardino Co (P)

IDAHO(Region X)

Bonner Co (Sandpoint), ID (Moderate)
Bonner Co (P)
Fort Hall Reservation, ID (Moderate)
Bannock Co (P)
Power Co (P)
Pinehurst, ID (Moderate)
Shoshone Co (P)
City of Pinehurst
Shoshone Co, ID (Moderate)
Shoshone Co (P)
excluding Pinehurst

MONTANA(Region VIII)

Butte, MT (Moderate)
Silver Bow Co (P)
Columbia Falls, MT (Moderate)
Flathead Co (P)
Flathead County; Whitefish and vicinity, MT (Moderate)
Flathead Co (P)
Kalispell, MT (Moderate)
Flathead Co (P)

Lame Deer, MT (Moderate)
Rosebud Co (P)
Libby, MT (Moderate)
Lincoln Co (P)
Missoula, MT (Moderate)
Missoula Co (P)
Polson, MT (Moderate)
Lake Co (P)
Polson
Ronan, MT (Moderate)
Lake Co (P)
Ronan
Sanders County (part);Thompson Falls and vicinity,MT (Moderate)
Sanders Co (P)

NEVADA(Region IX)
Clark Co, NV (Serious)
Clark Co (P)
Las Vegas planning area Hydrographic Area 212
Washoe Co, NV (Serious)
Washoe Co (P)
Reno planning area Hydrographic area 87

NEW MEXICO(Region VI)
Anthony, NM (Moderate)
Dona Ana Co (P)

NEW YORK(Region II)
New York Co, NY (Moderate)
New York Co

OREGON(Region X)
Eugene-Springfield, OR (Moderate)
Lane Co (P)
Urban Growth Boundary
Lane Co, OR (Moderate)
Lane Co (P)
Oakridge (Urban Growth Boundary)

PUERTO RICO(Region II)
Mun. of Guaynabo, PR (Moderate)
Guaynabo Co (P)

TEXAS(Region VI)
El Paso Co, TX (Moderate)
El Paso Co (P)
City of El Paso

UTAH(Region VIII)
Ogden, UT (Moderate)
Weber Co (P)
City of Ogden
Salt Lake Co, UT (Moderate)
Salt Lake Co

Utah Co, UT (Moderate)
Utah Co

WYOMING(Region VIII)
Sheridan, WY (Moderate)
Sheridan Co (P)
City of Sheridan

(P) : A portion of the county is located within the area and is designated nonattainment. This is not an official list of nonattainment areas. See the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR Part 81) and pertinent Federal Register notices for legal lists and boundaries.

Tiny air pollutants linked to heart disease

Last Updated: Wednesday, January 31, 2007 | 4:34 PM ET
CBC News

Women living in areas with more air pollution may be more prone to heart attacks and strokes than those living in cleaner places, a new study suggests.

The researchers looked at the health records of nearly 66,000 women age 50 to 79 living across the United States. The study appears in Thursday's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

"Our study provides evidence of the association between long-term exposure to air pollution and the incidence of cardiovascular disease," Dr. Joel Kaufman of the University of Washington at Seattle and his colleagues wrote.

The women, who did not initially have cardiovascular disease, were followed for up to nine years. Researchers tracked how many went on to have a heart attack, stroke, coronary bypass surgery or die of cardiovascular causes.

The study focused on levels of fine particular matter — tiny, airborne particles of soot or dust that come from vehicle exhaust, coal-fired power plants, industry and wood-burning fireplaces.

It would take about 30 to 40 of the particles, which are less than 2.5 microns in diameter, to equal the diameter of a human hair.

An estimated 5,900 Canadian deaths each year can be attributed to air pollution, according to Health Canada. (CBC)

The soot particles travel along with pollutant gases and may cause harmful effects once breathed in, Kaufman said.

When the concentration of particulates increased by 10 micrograms per cubic meter of air, the risk of death from heart disease among women jumped by 76 per cent, the team found, after taking into account factors such as blood pressure, cholesterol and smoking.

"The magnitude of health effects may be larger than previously recognized," the researchers concluded.

In a commentary accompanying the study, Dr. Douglas Dockery and Dr. Peter Stone of Harvard University said the study "greatly expands our understanding of how fine particulate pollution affects health."

Scientists suspect that the particles may cause inflammation in the blood vessels and the lungs, which may lead to fat clogging up arteries.

The particles are invisible once in the atmosphere, but may be seen in dense clouds coming from tailpipes, smokestacks or chimneys.

Previous studies have looked for links between airborne particulate matter and cardiovascular disease, but this was the first to look at new cases of heart disease among healthy people living in polluted cities.

In 2005, a report by Health Canada estimated that 5,900 Canadian deaths each year can be attributed to air pollution.

By Amanda Gardner, *HealthDay Reporter*

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31 (HealthDay News) -- Postmenopausal women who live in areas with higher air pollution levels have a higher risk of developing cardiovascular disease and of dying from it.

That's the conclusion of new research that found the risk of heart disease is higher than previously thought, and there can be substantial variations within individual cities.

"The risk of having a cardiovascular event, that is, a heart attack, stroke or needing bypass surgery, or of dying of a cardiovascular cause, was increased," said study senior author Dr. Joel Kaufman, professor of environmental and occupational medicine and epidemiology at the University of Washington.

The study is the first to look at new cases of cardiovascular disease, not just death. It was also the first to look at air pollution levels within cities. The results are published in the Feb. 1 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

"It's an important study," said Dr. Len Horovitz, a pulmonary specialist at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. "They showed that very small particulate matter can penetrate into the lungs and cause damage over time."

Fine particulate matter is comprised of tiny particles of soot or dust carried in the air. "They mostly come from combustion of fossil fuels, although vegetative burning has an impact in some cities," Kaufman said. "In the United States as a whole, we're mostly talking about power plants, coal burning and motor vehicle exhaust, especially diesel exhaust."

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for one in three deaths. Reducing fine particulate air pollution could result in less cardiovascular disease and fewer deaths, the study authors stated.

For the study, Kaufman and his colleagues looked at 65,893 postmenopausal women in 36 U.S. metropolitan regions who were part of the Women's Health Initiative, a large, government-funded study designed to look at heart health, cancer and osteoporosis in women. All participants were free of cardiovascular disease at the start of the study in 1994.

Each increase of 10 micrograms of fine particulate matter per cubic meter was associated with a 24 percent increase in the risk of a cardiovascular event and a 76 percent increase in the risk of death from cardiovascular disease.

Women having a higher long-term average exposure had a higher risk. And different health risks within cities were often larger than those between cities.

Scientists aren't sure how fine particulate air pollution increases these health risks, although it's possible that inhaling the particles may be speeding the development of atherosclerosis or hardening of the arteries.

An accompanying editorial in the journal called for better long-term environmental standards.

"The EPA [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency] did tighten 24-hour standards but failed to listen to its scientific advisers on long-term standards. They could be tightened," Horovitz said.

Kaufman added: "This is not a study that necessarily spells individual-level health decisions. It's not like we can say people should move. We really need to work harder to lower these levels, and we need to think about pollution as a risk factor, like smoking and diabetes and cholesterol. We need to think of pollution as a cause of health effects now and not just a nuisance factor and something that causes haze on the horizon."

More information

Daily pollution readings for more than 150 cities are provided by the EPA.

SOURCES: Joel D. Kaufman, M.D., professor of environmental and occupational medicine and epidemiology, University of Washington, Seattle; Len Horovitz, M.D., pulmonary specialist, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York City; Feb. 1, 2007, *New England Journal of Medicine*

DieselNet: What's New

Study: Exposure to traffic may increase heart attack risk

Posted on 23 October 2004

Exposure to traffic may increase the risk of heart attack in susceptible persons, concluded new study published in the October 21 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

In the study—authored by Dr. Annette Peters of the GSF National Research Center in Neuherberg, Germany and co-workers—691 heart attack survivors in the Augsburg, Germany area were questioned about their activities during the four day period before their heart attack. It was found that those who were exposed to traffic through such activities as driving, riding or bicycling were three times more likely to suffer a heart attack within one hour after the exposure than those who stayed away from traffic.

The most common source of exposure to traffic was the use of a car. However, there was also an association between time spent on public transportation and the onset of a heart attack one hour later. The authors concluded that traffic could be responsible for 8% of the heart attacks in their survey.

An association between exposure to urban traffic and cardiovascular disease has been suggested in previous studies, which have often linked heart disease to such factors as stress and noise. However, the heart attack risk found in the German study may be associated with pollution, said the study authors, and possibly explained by a heart's rhythm disturbance triggered by ambient particulate matter.

The study provides another indication that ambient particles, which have been associated with respiratory disease for quite some time, may be in fact interfering not only with lung function, but also with other organs, such as the heart and blood vessels.

The study was partly funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Source: New England Journal of Medicine (Paper abstract)